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(54) Title: HIGHLY CRYSTALLINE CROSS-LINKED OXIDATION-RESISTANT POLYETHYLENE

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to methods for making highly crystalline cross-linked polymeric material, for example, highly crystalline cross-linked ultra-high molecular weight polyethylene (UHMWPE). The invention also provides methods of making antioxidant-doped highly crystalline cross-linked polymeric material using high pressure and high temperature crystallization processes, medical implants made thereof, and materials used therein.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

			PC1/US03/03305		
A. CLAS IPC:	SSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER A61F 2/38(2006.01),2/00(2006.01),2/02(2006.01) 5/01(2006.01))6.01),2/40(2006.01);C08F 2/4	16(2006.01);C08K		
USPC: 424/422,423,424,425,426;523/113;524/483,585;623/19,20 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC					
B. FIEL	DS SEARCHED				
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S.: 424/422,423,424,425,426; 523/113; 524/483,585;					
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched					
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) USPAT; USPGPUB; DERWENT; JPO; EPO					
C. DOC	UMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where ap			Relevant to claim No.	
Y	US 6,620,198 B2 (BURSTEIN et al.) 16 September 2003 (16.09.2003), see entire 1-57 document.				
Y	US 5,827,904 A (HAHN) 27 October 1998 (27.10.1998), see entire document. 1-57			1-57	
Y	US 6,517,857 B2 (YLANEN et al) 11 February 2003 (11.02.2003), see entire document. 1-57			1-57	
Y Y	MARAATOGLU et al. Unified wear model for highly crosslinked ultra-high molecular weight polyethylene (UHMWPE). Biomaterials 20 (1999) 1463-1470., see entire document. PARTH et al. Studies on the effect of electron beam radiation on the m olecular structe of ultra-high molecular weight polyethylene under the influence of a-tocopherol with respect to its application in medical implants. Journal of Material Science: Materials in Medicine 13 (2002) 917-921.				
Further	documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.		See patent family annex.		
Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of		"T"	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention		
particular relevance "E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date		"X.	document of particular relevance; the considered novel or cannot be consider when the document is taken alone	claimed invention cannot be red to involve an inventive step	
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claims) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)		-γ Υ"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being		
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*P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		-&"	document member of the same patent i	tamily	
Date of the actual completion of the international search 20 March 2006 (20.03.2006)		Date of 1	nailing of the jot mational Gear	2005	
Name and mailing address of the ISA US			Authorized officer		
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

	From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU				
PCT	То:				
NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING OF A CHANGE (PCT Rule 92bis.1 and Administrative Instructions, Section 422) Date of mailing (day/month/year) 08 February 2006 (08.02.2006)	ISACSON, John, P. Heller Ehrman LLP 1717 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20036-3001 United States of America				
Applicant's or agent's file reference 37697-0104	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION				
International application No. PCT/US2005/003305	International filing date (day/month/year) 03 February 2005 (03.02.2005)				
1. The following indications appeared on record concerning: the applicant X the agent the common representative Name and Address State of Nationality State of Residence					
ISACSON, John, P. Heller Ehrman White & McAuliffe LLP Suite 300 1666 K Street, NW Washington, DC 20006-1228 United States of America	Telephone No. 202-912-2000 Facsimile No. 202-912-2020 Teleprinter No.				
2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the person the name X the add					
Name and Address ISACSON, John, P. Heller Ehrman LLP 1717 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20036-3001 United States of America EPO-[15 02					
3. Further observations, if necessary: TEAM:14					
4. A copy of this notification has been sent to: X the receiving Office X the International Searching Authority X the International Preliminary Examining Authority	the designated Offices concerned X the elected Offices concerned other:				
The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. (41-22) 338.87.20	Bernard THORAX (Fax 338-87-20) Felephone No. (41-22) 338 8213				